Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol. 56, No. 16 November 1997

Eyes of the Nation

Library of Congress

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November 1997

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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On the Cover: "Times Square, Facing Uptown. Celebrating Japanese Surrender, World War II." Photograph by Dick de Marsico for *New York World-Telegram and Sun*, August 1945. *From* Eyes of the Nation: A Visual History of the United States, *published by Alfred A. Knopf*

Cover Story: The Library's unparalleled visual collections contain millions of items. More than 500 of them have been assembled for the first time in a handsome volume telling the story of America called *Eyes of the Nation.* 334

The End of Reruns? America's video heritage, which includes television programs, is in danger of being lost forever because of the need for preservation. A comprehensive study released by the Library details the problems and what can be done about them. 331

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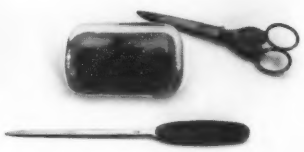
The State of Russia: According to human rights activist Elena Bonner, Russia still has a long way to go in the area of human rights. 333

Temple on the Hill: The Library of Congress Jefferson Building on Capitol Hill has been called a "fitting temple for great thoughts." A new exhibition shows why. 342, 345

Fragmentary Evidence: The Library's Paper Print Fragment Collection is an invaluable tool in the study of America's early films. 346

After the Fall: Germany is still experiencing major problems following the fall of the Iron Curtain. An authority on the subject spoke at the Library. 348



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Looking East: Austria is redefining its role among the newly free European states. The nation's former vice chancellor addressed the issue. Austria also recently honored the Library's German/Dutch area specialist. 349

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The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued monthly by the Public Affairs Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies, and allied organizations in the United States. It is also available on the World Wide Web at the following addresses: http://www.loc.gov/loc/lcib.

Research institutions and educational organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin*, Public Affairs Office, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue S.E., Washington DC 20540-1610, email lcib@loc.gov.

GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
JOHN H. SAYERS, Production

Crisis in Archival Video

New Study on Preservation of American Video Heritage

Dr. Billington on Oct. 16 released the first comprehensive five-volume study on the present survival status of American television and independent video productions. Two years in the making, the report paints a picture of losses already sustained and looming problems for an important part of America's cultural heritage.

"Television affects our lives from birth to death" said Dr. Billington. "Most Americans inform and entertain themselves through it. Sadly, we have not yet sought to preserve this powerful medium in anything like a serious or systematic manner."

Among the problems described in the report:

- The audiovisual record of the first decades of American television history is nonexistent or fragmentary at best, the result of programs never being recorded, being recorded and then erased or being subjected to inadequate storage conditions;
- America's audiovisual history and culture has been primarily entrusted to videotape the past several decades, yet videotape was never designed as a permanent preservation/recording medium. Videotape is subject to a wide assortment of damaging chemical and physical problems. Format obsolescence also remains a danger. More than 100 videotape formats have been introduced into the marketplace since 1956 and archivists do not have enough financial resources to copy the many valuable programs found on obsolete formats;
- The nearly complete loss of almost three decades of local television news footage, primarily from the 1950s through late 1970s. As a result, no substantive moving image documentary record exists of many American cities, communities, events, locations and personalities during this era. Local television stations discarded or routinely erased the material during this era to save storage space;
- The access difficulties faced by educators in finding and using television material in the classroom; and
- The financial inability of video artists and independent video producers to preserve their work.

A typical bay among hundreds in the Library's motion picture division containing film, videotape, etc.

To remedy these problems, the report recommends several key actions, most notably:

- Exploring new avenues of funding through means such as allocating shares from FCC broadcast-spectrum auction proceeds to benefit preservation efforts at nonprofit archives;
- Creating a private sector organization to raise funds and distribute grants to aid television and video preservation projects at nonprofit archives and similar institutions throughout the United States;
- Raising public awareness by establishing a national registry of historically and culturally important television and video programs, similar to the Library of Congress National Film Registry;
- Establishing a Study Center for Video Preservation to collect and provide technical information to institutions across the United States and to maintain equipment able to copy obsolete formats;
- Continuing dialogue among educators, archivists and the entertainment industry on ways to improve educational access to American television programs; and
- Urges the nation's largest television archives, the Library of Congress, to use the full extent of off-air taping authority it possesses under the 1976 Copyright Act.

Information for the report was gathered through hundreds of interviews, public hearings and written statements from 100 individuals and organizations, and the deliberations of three task forces. Volume 1 contains the report; volumes 2-4 contain transcripts of six public hearings; and volume 5 reproduces the written statements.

In releasing the report, Dr. Billington thanked the hundreds of broadcasters, industry officials, archivists, educators, artists and others who testified at public hearings, submitted written comments, served on task forces, and otherwise contributed to the report. He singled out for praise the report's chief researcher-author, William Murphy of the National Archives and Records Administration, and the Association of Moving Image Archivists, the nation's largest and most important body of moving image preservationists.

The report will soon be available for purchase from the Government Printing Office. Ordering information as well as an on-line version of the report can be found at the following World Wide Web address: http://lcweb.loc.gov/film/tv.html. For additional information, contact Steve Leggett (202) 707-5912; fax: (202) 707-2371; email: sleg@loc.gov.

On Wednesday, Dec. 17, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington will welcome LC alumni (retirees) back to the Library for the traditional holiday festivities. The day's activities will begin at 11 a.m. with a Holiday Program in the Great Hall of the Thomas Jefferson Building and will be followed by a luncheon at noon for LC alumni only (retired staff members) in the Montpelier Room, Sixth Floor, James Madison Memorial Building.

Invitations will be mailed to LC alumni during the week of Nov. 17. If you do not receive your invitation, please call the Office of Special Events and Public Programs, (202) 707-5218. Happy Holidays!

American Indian Holdings

Law Library Mounts Display for Indian Heritage Month

In observance of American Indian Heritage Month this November, the Law Library mounted the display "Many Nations: American Indian Holdings in the Law Library of Congress." The title refers to a recent Library of Congress publication: *Many Nations: A Library of Congress Resource Guide for the Study of Indian and Alaska Native Peoples of the United States* (1996).

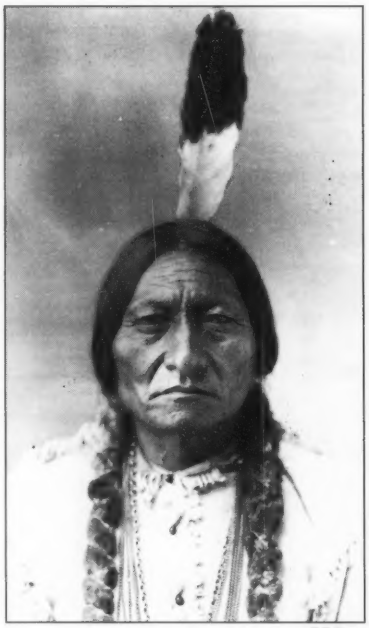
During the exhibit opening, the Law Library hosted a program on Oct. 30 that featured Library staff describing American Indian collections from various parts of the Library: Thomas J. Blumer of the Law Library outlined the scope of the show, Roger Walke of the Congressional Research Service gave an overview of the general collections' Indian holdings, Jennifer Brathovde, herself a member of the Sioux Nation, presented a slide show of Indian images in the Prints and Photographs Division, Joe Hickerson of the Archive of Folk Culture spoke about American Indian fieldwork and played samples of tribal music, and Elizabeth Bazan of CRS described the intricacies of doing legal research in American Indian matters.

According to Ms. Bazan, "To do research in the field of Indian law is to enter a world of complex and fascinating issues. Almost every field of legal inquiry has its counterpart in Indian law; yet, it is, in many ways, unique — from its constitutional underpinnings to its historical, geographical, ethnological and cultural contexts.

"The relationship of the federal government to the Native Americans is also unique. ... Each case or research project must be approached from its own unique factual, legal, historical, geographical, cultural or political aspects. Even more than in many other areas of legal inquiry, generalizations can be dangerous in Indian law."

For example, the land issues that arise in connection with Navajo and Hopi lands in the Southwest differ substantially from those that affect Alaskan Natives under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act or the Trade and Intercourse Act issues involved in the Eastern land claims.

"I have often said that there is no such thing as a simple question in the field of Indian law. Indian law is a field where one will often encounter tensions between tribal, federal, state, local or private interests, particularly when the matter involves a scarce resource such as water," she said.



D.F. Barry

Sitting Bull

The resources of the Law Library of Congress can be of extraordinary assistance to both the person venturing into the field of Indian law and the experienced attorney working on an intricate case."

What does the collection include?

If research is needed for the Colonial era, the Law Library has eight volumes of a continuing project to compile Colonial documents relating to North American Indians from 1607 to 1789.

The Law Library's federal collection is extensive. It includes copies of treaties between the federal government and many Indian tribes in a number of resources such as the *Statutes at Large*, C.J. Kappler's compilation of Indian treaties and an 1873 *Compilation of All the Treaties Between the United States and Indian Tribes [then] in Force as Laws*, published by the Government Printing Office.

The Library's collection of federal legislative documents includes House and Senate committee reports, congressional hearings and floor debates, as well as all versions of the bills introduced in the House or Senate from 1789 to the present. A wide range of executive branch materials is also available, from presidential documents to federal regulations to many of the opinions of the Solicitor of the Department of the Interior relating to Indian Affairs and others.

In addition, the Law Library has a complete collection of federal trial and appellate court decisions and maintains a large collection of appellate and Supreme Court records and briefs.

The Law Library also has a substantial collection of state materials such as state statutes and court decisions, as well as interstate compacts, and an interesting collection of early period titles such as the *Executive Journals of the Council of Colonial Virginia or Messages of the Governors of Tennessee.*

There is also a useful, though not exhaustive, collection of tribal legal materials.

The Law Library's historical and contemporary international materials may relate to some areas of Indian law. For example, early Spanish laws and royal ordinances and early Mexican laws may shed light on early American treatment of the Pueblo or the California tribes. Current issues regarding free passage or duty-free passage along the border between the United States and Canada may require an examination of Article III of the Jay Treaty of 1794 with the 1796 Explanatory Article, Article IX of the Treaty of Ghent of 1815, the Treaty of Spring Wells of the same year, pertinent case law, as well as more recent American and Canadian laws and regulations, and tribal laws implementing those rights.

One of the remarkable aspects of the collections at the Law Library of Congress is its Rare Book Collection. It includes Colonial and early American materials and a large number of acts of Parliament from Great Britain during the Colonial period. There are also a number of volumes devoted to Indian Territory, including the seven-volume

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Bonner Brings Human Rights to Light

Widow of Sakharov Speaks at Library

Elena Bonner, former dissident, human rights activist and widow of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Andrei Sakharov, delivered a critical assessment of the state of human rights in the former Soviet Union at a speech at the Library on Oct. 22.

Despite the collapse of the police state and steps toward an open society, Ms. Bonner suggested that Russia has not made significant progress in important areas of human rights, and that, in some matters, its new democratic government has caused or tolerated abuses rivaling those of the Communist era.

Introducing Ms. Bonner, Dr. Billington recalled last seeing her in Moscow during the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. He praised her as "a giant of the human rights movement, not just in Russia or the former Soviet Union, but around the world." Ms. Bonner's late husband, Russian physicist and fellow dissident Andrei Sakharov, was honored during a visit to the Library in 1989.

Ms. Bonner is the author of *Alone Together* (Knopf, 1986), about her exile with her husband in the closed city of Gorky, and *Mothers and Daughters* (Knopf, 1992). She has established several institutions to honor her late husband, particularly the Andrei Sakharov Foundation (Russia); the Andrei Sakharov Foundation (USA); the Sakharov Archives in Moscow and the Andrei Sakharov Archives and Center at Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass., established in 1993.

Speaking through her daughter and translator, Tatiana Davis, Ms. Bonner quoted Bertolt Brecht's *Galileo*, asking, "Which country is more unfortunate: one that has no heroes or one that needs heroes?" Russia under the Soviets needed heroes, she said. The Russian dissident movement — an amalgam of religious leaders, ecological groups and international human rights activists formed a heroic opposition to political repression. Ms. Bonner described the traditional dissidents as liberal intellectuals, idealists opposed to the corruption and hypocrisy of one-party rule.

While their idealogies differed, the dissidents were united "by their rejection of the state and state propaganda" and by "their human defiance of an inhuman regime." In 1947, the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights," an international convention, became the model for the human rights movement in the Soviet Union. Dissidents took as goals the declaration's central guarantees: freedom of conscience, information and movement. Their strategy was to report violations of human rights, through publications such as *The Chronicle of Current Events* and to defend prisoners of conscience. By 1988, these disparate groups became the basis of new electoral organizations under Gorbachev's *perestroika* (restructuring).

> **"The intelligentsia seems to have abandoned its historic calling of compassion and assistance in favor of grabbing crumbs dropped by the corrupt and powerful."**
>
> — *Elena Bonner*

Today, said Ms. Bonner, times are different. While Russian society enjoys new political freedoms, democratization and the dismantling of the state economy have produced problems the former champions of human rights never had to address. *Glasnost* (openness) and freedom of the press exist, but the newly powerful are often deaf to this public discourse. Freedom of movement, including the freedom to emigrate, is guaranteed, but curtailed in practice by economics. The 1993 Russian constitution, which Ms. Bonner called "a magnificent proclamation regarding human rights," protects freedom of conscience but provides no substantial mechanism for enforcement.

In this milieu, the question of whether Russians are better off remains difficult to answer, Ms. Bonner said. Substandard living conditions caused by poverty wages is just marginally better than the below-poverty level pensions one can expect at retirement. The education system, one of the few successes of state socialism, has decayed, and teachers often go unpaid. Courts and judges must also cope with "starvation diets" and low budgets, which harms their independence, she said.

The collapse of the health care system coincides with a disastrous increase in tuberculosis rates. The return of the once nearly conquered disease poses a major public health crisis. The threat of infection is especially high in Russia's densely overcrowded prisons, where innocent and guilty alike await trial for up to three years. In one prison, Ms. Bonner reported, "only 373 inmates in 1,000 survived."

Forced military conscription, the brutal hazing of recruits and Russia's bloody regional conflicts "continue to horrify every family with a son," she said, and the country has not made the transition to a professional volunteer army. Ms. Bonner served on President Yeltsin's Commission on Human Rights from 1993 until December 1994, when she resigned in protest over the war for independence in Chechnya.

Income disparities "make the concerns of the traditional dissidents appear trivial by comparison," Ms. Bonner said.

Although Russia today presents challenges worthy of new champions, relatively few intellectuals are active in the human rights arena now, said Ms. Bonner. Many of the old dissidents have emigrated or returned to careers interrupted by exile and persecution. These "heroes," moreover, have not been replaced by the next generation. "The intelligentsia seems to have abandoned its historic calling of compassion and assistance in favor of grabbing crumbs dropped by the corrupt and powerful," charged Mrs. Bonner.

In free Russia, she concluded, fighting for human rights has become inconspicuous, unheroic work. The country no longer demands heroes, she said, but remains an unfortunate place.

— *John Martin*

Mr. Martin is an examiner in the Copyright Office.

Frances Benjamin Johnston

Centennial Photographic Company

Edward S. Curtis

Booker T. Washington, ca. 1895; the torch and part of the arm of the Statue of Liberty, on display at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia, 1876; a desert Cahuilla woman, ca. 1924

Eyes of the Nation

New Treasury Offers Best of Library's Visual Collections

By Guy Lamolinara

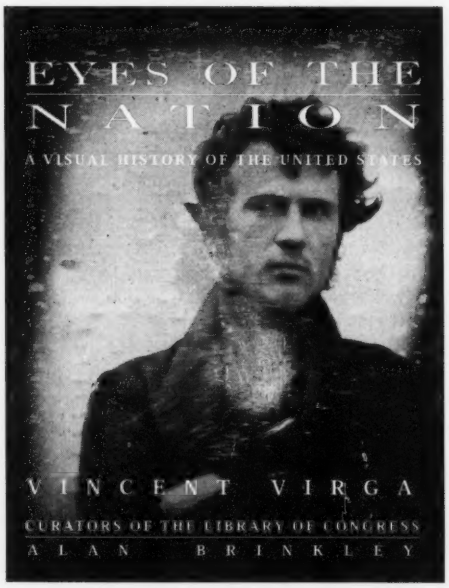
Imagine having millions of images to choose from for an album of only about 500 and one begins to realize the process that resulted in *Eyes of the Nation: A Visual History of the United States.*

The Library's unrivaled "special collections" (nonbook items and rare books) are justly praised as the best in the nation, yet never before has a book been published that tells the story of America through these collections. *Eyes of the Nation* is a pictorial and narrative history for the general reader just published by Alfred A. Knopf in association with the Library of Congress. This 416-page volume features more than 500 images from the Library's collections, which have been called "America's Memory."

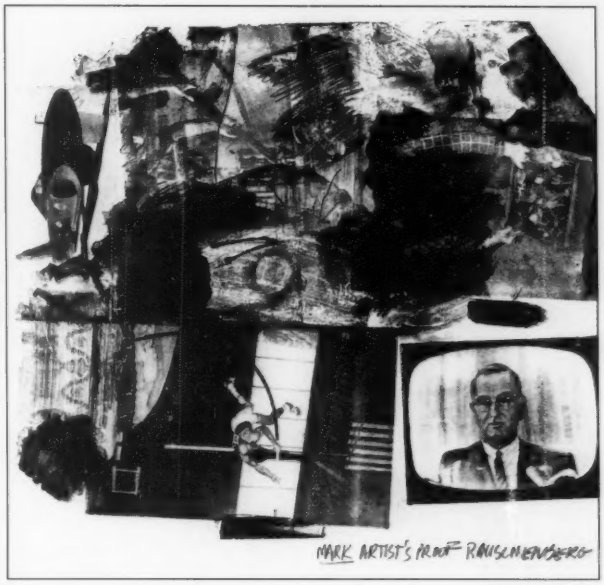
To make his task easier and more successful, one of the book's principal authors, picture editor Vincent Virga, worked very closely with Library curators, notably Bernard F. Reilly Jr. (Chicago Historical Society, formerly head of the Prints and Photographs Division Curatorial Section). The initial collaboration between Mr. Virga and Mr. Reilly led to the project's successful conclusion. Mr. Virga also collaborated closely with Elena Millie (Prints and Photographs Division).

"The Library of Congress is the Everest of libraries. To attempt to scale even its lower slopes without expert guidance is to risk plunging to hubristic death," Mr. Virga said in the book's Acknowledgments section. Thus "I asked [the Library's curators] to show me what they loved best. ... What 'stuff' they most treasured. This book is the result of that exercise."

Also working on the project were Library curators Katherine Blood, Beverly Brannan, Verna Posever Curtis, Carol M. Johnson, Harry Katz and C. Ford Peatross of the Prints and Photographs Division; Ronald E. Grim of the Geography and Map Division; John R. Hébert of the Hispanic Division; Patrick Loughney of the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division; John McDonough of the Manuscript Division; and Jon Newsom of the Music Division.


EYES OF THE NATION
A VISUAL HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES
VINCENT VIRGA
CURATORS OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
ALAN BRINKLEY

George Catlin



Robert Rauschenberg

Osceola of Florida. **Lithograph. New York, 1838;** ***Mark, Postscript to "34 Drawings for Dante's Inferno."*** **Lithograph. [New York], 1964; "Palace of Mechanic Arts, World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago." Silver gelatin photoprint, 1893.**

The other principal author is Alan Brinkley, a professor at Columbia University, who wrote essays that introduce the book's seven chapters.

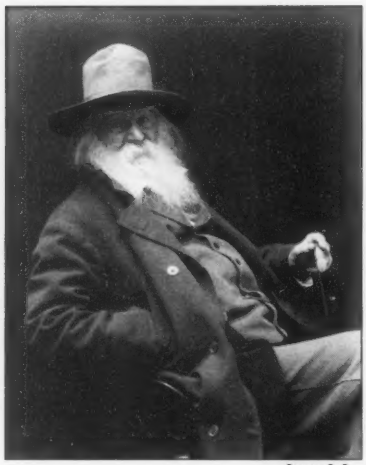
According to Dr. Billington, who penned the book's preface, "Alone among the nations of the earth, the United States is at once a heterogeneous assemblage of people of various colors, religions and national origins and a remarkably stable democratic society constantly redefining itself by the very principles upon which it was founded.

"*Eyes of the Nation* brings this epic chronicle to life through the artful presentation of ... images of the American past — images created by those who helped build it, preserved in the collections of the Library of Congress."

From its cover image, believed to be the first photograph of a human face, taken by Robert Cornelius of himself in 1839 (page 334), to a 1964 lithograph (and gift to the Library) by Robert Rauschenberg incorporating images from mass media (above right); from a remarkable 1945 photograph (see cover) of Times Square filled with the faces of celebration at war's end, to a horrific 1916 photograph of an 18-year-old, mentally impaired African American who had been burned and mutilated for the murder of his employer's wife, *Eyes* presents the greatest moments in the nation's history as well as what Dr. Billington calls America's "dark side: grave injustices, slavery, bigotry, civil war, hardships, violence, opportunities missed or long denied."

Frances Benjamin Johnston

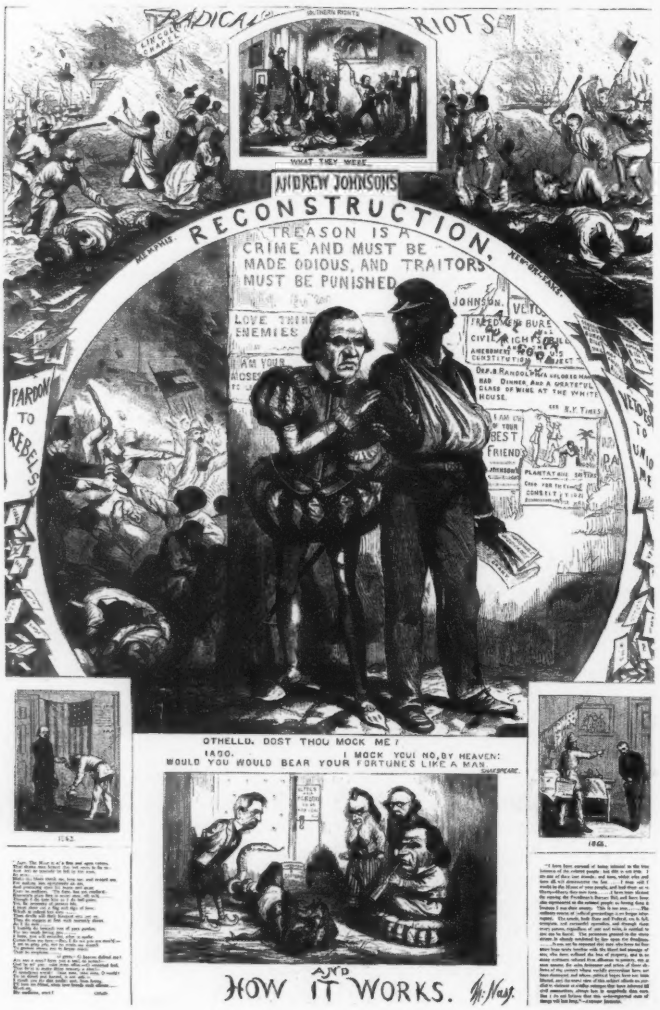
Fittingly, the book begins with images of the land's first settlers, Native Americans. Theodor de Bry's "The Village of Secota" (1590) depicts a settlement village on Roanoke Island. Later works, from the 19th century, are by the artists George Catlin (above left) and James Ackerman, whose empha-



George C. Cox

John Reekie

Walt Whitman, ca. 1887; "A Burial Party, Cold Harbor, Va." Albumen silver print #94 from Alexander Gardner, *Gardner's Photographic Sketch Book of the War, Vol. II.* Washington, D.C., 1865-66; *Andrew Johnson's Reconstruction and How It Works.* Wood engraving. New York, 1866.


RADICAL
RIOTS
WHAT THEY WERE
ANDREW JOHNSONS
RECONSTRUCTION.
TREASON IS A CRIME AND MUST BE MADE ODIOUS, AND TRAITORS MUST BE PUNISHED
LOVE THINE ENEMIES
PARDON TO REBELS
OTHELLO. DOST THOU MOCK ME?
IAGO. I MOCK YOU NO, BY HEAVEN: WOULD YOU WOULD BEAR YOUR FORTUNES LIKE A MAN.
SHAKSPEARE.
1862.
1868.
HOW AND IT WORKS. Th. Nast

Thomas Nast

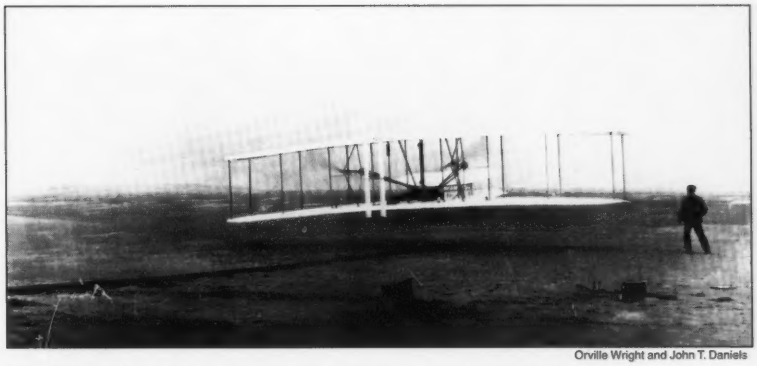
sis on the dignity of American Indians contrasts sharply with the stereotypical images of the day.

Yet not all the illustrations in *Eyes of the Nation* are pictorial. The written word, so important in the nation's founding, is also represented by such items as Thomas Jefferson's first draft of the Declaration of Independence and Abraham Lincoln's preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.

Paul Revere's engraving of a "bloody massacre" in Boston in 1770 helped foment revolution. Another war on American soil, the Civil War, is chronicled in images such as John Reekie's "A Burial Party"(above), which shows an African American beside a stretcher heaped with skulls and other remains of the conflict's human tragedy.

In a section simply titled "The River," America's most important one, the Mississippi, is highlighted for the contributions it has made to social, cultural and economic life. A photograph of steamboats in Memphis, among the busiest ports on the waterway; a mezzotint based on George Caleb Bingham's iconic painting *The Jolly Flat Boat Men;* a genius of fiction, William Faulkner, and a genius of jazz, Louis Armstrong (page 337) — all are tied to the power of the Mississippi.

The pains and gains of the Reconstruction era are apparent in works such as Thomas Nast's "Andrew Johnson's Reconstruction and How It Works" (left), in which the influential cartoonist mocks what he views as President Johnson's



Orville Wright and John T. Daniels

Makoto Wada

"First Flight. December 17, 1903. Distance, 120 feet. Time, 12 seconds." Orville Wright at controls. Modern gelatin silver print (from original glass plate negative). Kitty Hawk, North Carolina; *Louis Armstrong.* Watercolor. Japan, 1968; *The Banjo Lesson.* Color drypoint and aquatint with hand coloring. Fourth state. [Paris], ca. 1893; "The Close of a Career in New York." Contemporary gelatin silver print. (from original glass plate negative), New York ca. 1900.

betrayal of the promise of democracy for all Americans. Inspired by Shakespeare's *Othello,* Nast portrays Johnson as the dissembling Iago and a freed slave as the Moor who was betrayed by his friend.

On the architectural front, an image of the so-called White City at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago (page 335) is proof of the enormous influence this exhibition had on the form and look of the nation's cities. Those cities, none of which grew larger than New York, were populated by a burgeoning immigrant population, as exemplified by a 1900 photograph from the Detroit Publishing Co. called "Mulberry Street," still home today to many of New York City's Italian Americans.

Overseas, Americans were also making their mark. Mary Cassatt, the only artist from the States to join the original Impressionists in Paris, painted *The Banjo Lesson* in 1893 (right).

Mary Cassatt

Although the medium was not invented here, motion pictures began their path to becoming the nation's premiere cultural export around this time. Edwin S. Porter's "The Great Train Robbery" (1903) was one of the first western masterpieces and paved the way for longer, more complex films.

Evidence of the nation's preeminence in the sciences can be seen in a photograph taken at the instant of takeoff of the first machine-powered flight, of Orville Wright at Kitty Hawk, N.C., in 1903 (above).

Sports have always been important to American life, and one of the West Coast's first stadiums, the Stadium Bowl, was constructed in 1910. Panoramic photographs, such as one taken in 1913 of a field day celebration there, (page 340) helped document "America's newfound self-confidence."

But, as *Eyes of the Nation* makes clear, the nation's prosperity and optimism were not

Byron Photographic Firm for the Detroit Publishing Company

Alice Mumford Culin

Dorothea Lange

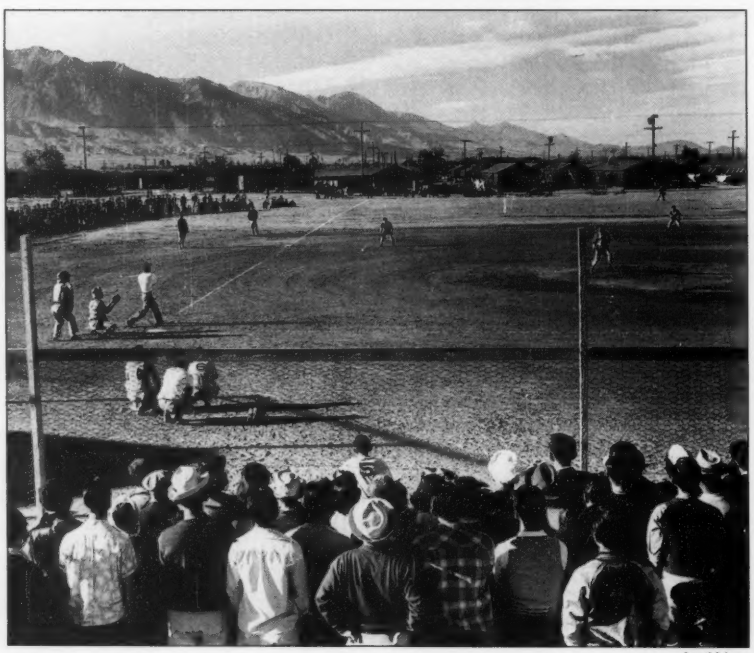
The New York World's Fair. **Offset lithograph. Poster. New York, 1937; "Broke — Baby Sick — Car Trouble. Tracy (vicinity), Calif., February 1937." Gelatin silver print. Farm Security Administration; "Baseball Game, Manzanar Relocation Center." Gelatin silver print. Inyo County, Calif., 1943.**

universal. In "The Close of a Career in New York" (page 337) ragged children play in the street next to a horse's carcass — a bleak image of poverty as the country began its transformation from a rural to an urban nation. Dorothea Lange's "Broke — Baby Sick — Car Trouble" (above) shows a woman stranded, all her possessions piled into a vehicle, on a desolate road with her two children. Lange's Depression-era photographs encapsulated the nation's fears and uncertainties as it fought its way out of its worst economic crisis.

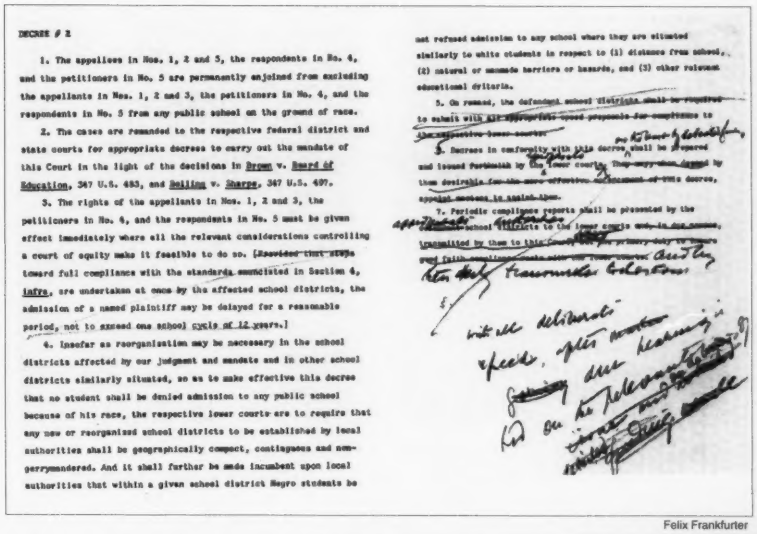
Poet, musician, filmmaker, writer and photographer Gordon Parks also documented the Depression, as in his 1943 "Women Welders" for the Office of War Information (page 341). Clearly, women as well as minorities had acquired the job skills previously the bastion of white males. Another photograph from that same year tells another story:

Absent its title, Ansel Adams's photograph of a baseball game in Inyo County, Calif. (left), appears to be evidence of nothing more than a crowd gathered to watch the nation's pastime. But its name, "Baseball Game, Manzanar Relocation Center," speaks of a nation so paranoid that it relocated 10,000 of its citizens of Japanese descent to this camp based on fears of impending invasion following the attack on Pearl Harbor.

But while the nation was at war, great art was still being created. At the Library of Congress, for example, in 1944 Martha Graham and Aaron



Ansel Adams



DECREE # 2

1. The appellees in Nos. 1, 2 and 3, the respondents in No. 4, and the petitioners in No. 5 are permanently enjoined from excluding the appellants in Nos. 1, 2 and 3, the petitioners in No. 4, and the respondents in No. 5 from any public school on the ground of race.

2. The cases are remanded to the respective federal district and state courts for appropriate decrees to carry out the mandate of this Court in the light of the decisions in Brown v. Board of Education, 347 U.S. 483, and Bolling v. Sharpe, 347 U.S. 497.

3. The rights of the appellants in Nos. 1, 2 and 3, the petitioners in No. 4, and the respondents in No. 5 must be given effect immediately where all the relevant considerations controlling a court of equity make it feasible to do so. [Provided that steps toward full compliance with the standards enunciated in Section 4, infra, are undertaken at once by the affected school districts, the admission of a named plaintiff may be delayed for a reasonable period, not to exceed one school cycle of 12 years.]

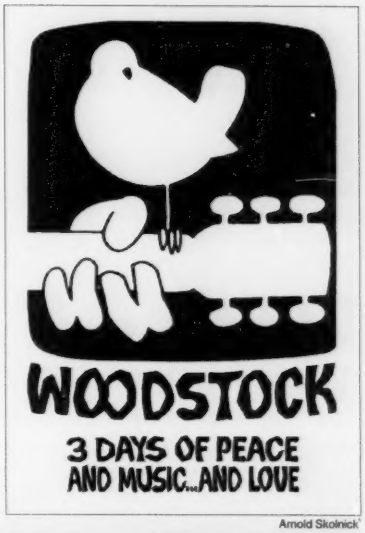
4. Insofar as reorganization may be necessary in the school districts affected by our judgment and mandate and in other school districts similarly situated, so as to make effective this decree that no student shall be denied admission to any public school because of his race, the respective lower courts are to require that any new or reorganized school districts to be established by local authorities shall be geographically compact, contiguous and non-gerrymandered. And it shall further be made incumbent upon local authorities that within a given school district Negro students be not refused admission to any school where they are situated similarly to white students in respect to (1) distance from school, (2) natural or manmade barriers or hazards, and (3) other relevant educational criteria.

5. On remand, the defendant school districts shall be required to submit with all appropriate speed proposals for compliance to the respective lower courts.

6. Decrees in conformity with this decree shall be prepared and issued forthwith by the lower courts. Thereafter, jurisdiction of the cases, transferred by them to this Court, shall be retained by this Court pending compliance with the decrees. And the jurisdiction of this Court shall be retained for the purpose of entering such further orders as may be required in the implementation of this decree.

7. Periodic compliance reports shall be presented by the school districts to the lower courts and, in due course, transmitted by them to this Court. The primary duty to assess good faith compliance rests with the lower courts. And the

Felix Frankfurter



Arnold Skolnick

Draft of decree implementing the Supreme Court opinion in *Brown v. Board of Education.* Typescript with pen and ink notations. Washington, D.C., April 8, 1955; *Woodstock, 3 Days of Peace and Music ... and Love.* Offset lithograph. Poster. New York, 1969; *Avenge.* Offset lithograph. Poster, 1970; *The New York Times.* Front page, Monday, July 21, 1969.

Copland premiered their masterwork *Appalachian Spring* (page 340), commissioned by the Library's Coolidge Fund and performed in the auditorium of the same name (which has recently reopened after seven years of restoration).

Just as the written word helped found the nation, it also helped heal it. The Supreme Court's 1954 decision in *Brown v. Board of Education,* implemented by Justice Felix Frankfurter's 1955 decree, is a cornerstone of the U.S. civil rights movement. The justice's emendations to the typewritten implementation order (above) reveal that "forthwith" was replaced with the phrase "with all deliberate speed." Frankfurter made the change because he believed it was the best rate of progress that could be hoped for. Nine years later, Justice Hugo Black stated in a court opinion that the "time for mere 'deliberate speed' has run out."

Optimism reigned supreme in the nation in 1969, when on July 20 the first man, American Neil Armstrong, set foot on the moon. The landing was the culmination of U.S. Cold War efforts to surpass the Soviets' scientific triumph with the 1957 launch of *Sputnik.* The entire front page of the following day's *New York Times* was devoted to the event (right).

The high hopes of the nation, however, were not long-lived. As the Vietnam War dragged on, Americans became increasingly bitter — even violent — in their reactions to front-page headlines. The exuberance of Woodstock's "3 Days of Peace and Music ... and Love" in 1969 (top right) was soon followed by tragedy. Four students were killed by Ohio National Guardsmen at Kent State University during a protest of the invasion of Cambodia. A 1970 poster with the word "Avenge" crudely painted over what is perhaps the most famous photograph of the event is still a poignant reminder of that turbulent era (above right).

By the mid-'70s, feminism was taking root, and gay rights activists also championed their cause. America's multiculturalism had found a new foothold as a result of the Immigration Act of 1965, illustrated by a 1982 photograph of a Christmas show presented by students of the First Korean School

The New York Times

MAN WALKS ON MOON

ASTRONAUTS LAND ON A PLAIN AFTER STEERING PAST CRATER

Voice From Moon: 'Eagle Has Landed'

Bleak, Rocky World Seen From Module

Boulders May Prove Scientific Boons

Lunar Dips to 10 Miles From Moon; Surprises Seen

Arnold Genthe

"Stadium Day, May 29, 1913." Panoramic silver gelatin print, Tacoma, Wash., 1913. One of the first stadiums on the West Coast, the Stadium Bowl was built in 1910 next to Tacoma High School on a bluff overlooking Commencement Bay. The school had been initially designed in 1891 as a Beaux-Arts hotel by McKim, Mead & White, one of the period's most celebrated architectural firms, but the depression of 1893 suspended construction until 1905, when Frederick Heath reconfigured the project as Tacoma High School; Greta Garbo, 1925; Martha Graham and Erick Hawkins in the premiere of *Appalachian Spring.* Gelatin silver print. Washington, D.C., Oct. 30, 1944. This photograph was taken at the first performance of *Appalachian Spring,* in the Library's Coolidge Auditorium on the 80th birthday of Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge, who had commissioned a score from Aaron Copland to accompany choreography by Martha Graham, America's foremost dance-dramatist.

in Silver Spring, Md. (page 341).

Because the story of America is the story of its individuals — the famous, the infamous and the unknown — *Eyes of the Nation* concludes with a section called "The People." In it one can view portraits of Walt Whitman (page 336) and Albert Einstein (page 341), of Booker T. Washington (page 334) and Greta Garbo (left), of an unidentified Native American woman (page 334) and Chinese American children.

All these "vivid images," in the words of Dr. Billington, "show how Americans have viewed themselves, and have been viewed by others, in the course of this great work-in-progress that is the United States."

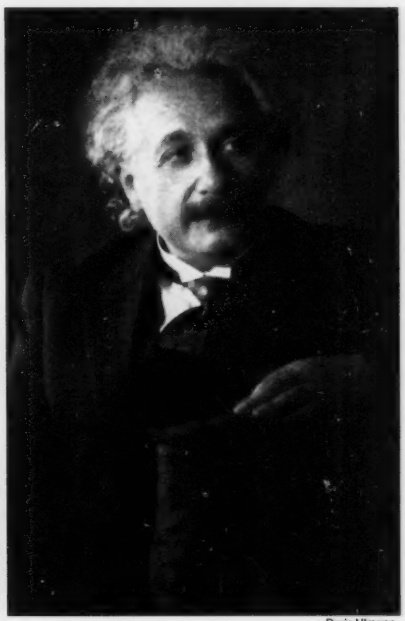
Eyes of the Nation: A Visual History of the United States *is published by Alfred A. Knopf and sells for $75. It is available at bookstores nationwide, through book clubs and from the Library's Sales Shop at (202) 707-0204. A CD-ROM version by ArtLook is also available for $19.95. It contains all the book's images plus an additional 1,500 items.*

Marvin Dement Boland

"Women Welders at the Landers, Frary and Clark Plant. New Britain, Conn., June 1943." Gelatin silver print. Office of War Information; Christmas show for nursing home residents presented by students at the First Korean School, Silver Spring, Md. Gelatin silver print, 1982. Folklorist Lucy Long documented the First Korean School, founded in 1979, for the American Folklife Center and reported that the administrators emphasized the importance of creating good Korean-American citizens; Albert Einstein, 1931

Gordon Parks

Lucy Long



Doris Ulmann

'A Fitting Temple for Great Thoughts'

The Jefferson Building and a New Library of Congress

When its doors opened to the public in 1897, the Library of Congress represented an unparalleled national achievement: its 23-carat gold-plated dome capped the "largest, costliest and safest" library building in the world. Its elaborately decorated interior, embellished by works of art from more than 40 American painters and sculptors, linked the United States to classical traditions of learning and simultaneously flexed American cultural and technological muscle.

A guidebook of the time boasted: "America is justly proud of this palatial monument to its National sympathy and appreciation of Literature, Science and Art. It has been designed and executed entirely by American art and American labor. It is a fitting temple for the great thoughts of generations past, present, and to be." This new national "temple," also a celebration of the American belief in knowledge-based democracy, immediately met with overwhelming approval from politicians and public alike. An exhibition has been mounted to honor the building's centennial (see following story).

The attention and appreciation deservedly given the art and architecture of the Library of Congress building (known since 1980 as the Thomas Jefferson Building) sometimes obscures an important fact: It was built specifically to serve as the American national library and its architecture and decoration both express and enhance this fundamental purpose.

The Library of Congress building and the idea for a "national" library are thoroughly intertwined, for each was the dream and ultimately the achievement of Ainsworth Rand Spofford (1825-1908), the energetic Librarian of Congress from 1864 to 1897. The new building was a crucial step in Spofford's transformation of the institution from a Library devoted primarily to serving the U.S. legislature into a national institution that also served the American public. It provided space for collections and eventually for new services. A functional, state-of-the-art structure as well as a monument to American cultural nationalism, it used and celebrated the latest technology to demonstrate the new role of the library, not simply as a storehouse of knowledge, but also as a workshop for the efficient use of knowledge and information.

The Library of Congress was established in 1800 when the American government moved from Philadelphia to the new capital of Washington on the Potomac River. For 97 years the Library was housed in various locations in the U.S. Capitol building. In 1871, Librarian of Congress Spofford, who had centralized all U.S. copyright activities at the Library the previous year, found himself running out of space and sug-

W. Bengough

This watercolor published in the Feb. 27, 1897, issue of *Harper's Weekly* shows crowded conditions in the Capitol that made a new Library of Congress building necessary. Librarian Ainsworth Rand Spofford stands at the far right.

gested the construction of a separate building. His suggestion became a full-fledged proposal in the Library's 1872 annual report.

The general idea met with favor, but the early years of planning and construction were filled with controversy and delay. After two design competitions and a decade of debate about location and design, in 1886 Congress finally chose a plan in the Italian Renaissance style submitted by Washington architects John L. Smithmeyer and Paul J. Pelz. Structurally the architects followed the basic idea proposed by Spofford: a public building with a circular, domed reading room at the center, surrounded by ample space for the book stacks and the Library's various departments.

Controversy continued after the building was authorized in 1886. Responsibility for clearing the site was disputed and Capitol landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted protested the building's location because it shut out "the whole view of the Capitol building from Pennsylvania Avenue — the main approach from Capitol Hill." A disagreement about the selection of the cement for the foundation proved to be architect Smithmeyer's undoing, and he was dismissed in 1888.

Congress placed the building's construction under the direction of Brig. Gen. Thomas Lincoln Casey, chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Casey and his Superintendent of Construction, civil engineer Bernard R. Green, had successfully completed the construction of the Washington Monument and the State, War and Navy (now Old Executive Office) building, and Congress trusted them. The cornerstone was laid on Aug. 28, 1890. Paul J. Pelz, who replaced Smithmeyer as architect in 1888, was himself dismissed in 1892, and replaced by architect Edward Pearce Casey, Gen. Casey's son, who was responsible for overseeing most of the interior decoration.

The building's elaborate decoration, which combines sculpture, mural painting and architecture on a scale unsurpassed in any other American public building, was possible only because Gen. Casey and Bernard Green lived up to their reputations as efficient construction engineers, completing the building for a sum considerably less than that appropriated by Congress. When it became apparent in 1892 that funds for "artistic enrichment" would be available out of the original appropriation, Casey and Green seized the opportunity and turned an already remarkable building into a cultural monument.

The Government Printing Office established a branch at the Library to supply the cataloging cards that the Library began to market in 1901. In this photo (ca. 1904), type is set by hand.

The two engineers were infused with a nationalism that complemented Spofford's aspirations for the Library. The 1893 World's Columbian Exposition provided an example of a cooperative artistic endeavor that combined architecture, sculpture and painting, and there are many similarities between the architecture and art of the 1893 exposition and the Library building. Both were government-sponsored ventures on a grand scale and, for the most part, in the same classical tradition. Many of the artists who contributed works to the Library building either helped design the imperial facades of the Chicago Exposition or exhibited their works within its pavilions; moreover, many of them repeated the idealistic themes and likenesses they had produced in Chicago.

Gen. Casey and Bernard Green were anxious to give American artists an opportunity to display their talents, and ultimately they commissioned more than 40 American sculptors and painters "to fully and consistently carry out the monumental design and purpose of the building." Casey and Green exercised final approval over the themes, images and words seen throughout the building, but these themes and images, along with the inscriptions and quotations on the building's walls, were chosen by many different people.

In a report to Congress in 1896, Superintendent Green stated that the total cost of the mural and decorative painting, the sculpture and the three massive bronze doors at the main entrance was $364,000. Even with the additional costs of gilding the building's dome, including the Torch of Learning at its apex, and the construction of the Neptune Fountain in front of the building on First Street, the building was completed for $200,000 less than the total congressional authorization of approximately $6,500,000.

As the building neared completion, Librarian Spofford submitted a report to Congress about his plans to reorganize the Library. His 16-page special report of Dec. 3, 1895, essentially is an extension of the ideas he expressed in his 1872 annual report. He proposed

Many Library of Congress administrative units, at least technically speaking, celebrated their 100th birthdays on Nov. 1. As described in the Library's 1897 reorganization act (29 Stat. 538), approved by President Grover Cleveland on Feb. 19, 1897, the new "departments" or offices, effective July 1, 1897, were copyright, law, cataloging, periodicals, manuscripts, music, graphic arts, and maps and charts. The July 1 date was predicated on the planned move of the Library into its new building immediately after Congress adjourned — which everyone assumed would be on March 4, 1897.

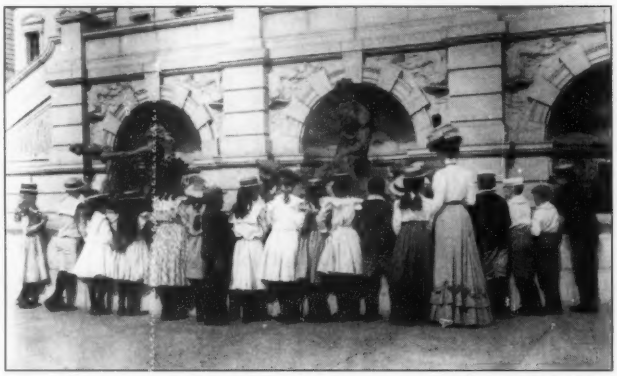
However, an unforeseen extra session of Congress in the spring of 1897 delayed the closing of the Library of Congress, then in the Capitol building, until July 31, 1897. Thus the move of the collections could not start until Aug. 2, and the new administrative units could not open for business until the building opened to the public on Nov. 1, 1897.

nine departments: printed books, periodicals, manuscripts, maps and charts, works of art, cataloging, binding, copyright and superintendent of the building. He urged consideration of expansion of the Library's staff in the new building, pointing out that its current size (38) compared unfavorably that of the Boston Public Library (140), which had "two-thirds as many volumes and no copyright business" and to that of the British Museum Library, which "with no copyright business and no circulation" employed 220 attendants in its eight departments, besides 160 engineers, electricians, laborers, window cleaners, police, etc."

From Nov. 16 to Dec. 7, 1896, as the building neared completion, the Joint Committee on the Library held hearings about the Library and its role and organization. Spofford and Green were the primary witnesses and took committee members on an extensive tour of the new structure. Nine distinguished librarians from around the country also testified, including Melvil Dewey and Herbert Putnam, a future Librarian of Congress.

During the hearings it became clear that the congressional library now increasingly referred to as "the Library of Congress," was considered to be the American national library, although precisely what that meant was unclear and indeed was debated in the hearings. Appended to the 279-page volume of hearings, published in 1897, is a table prepared by Spofford that compares the "proposed force and expenditure in the Library of Congress in its new building ... with similar service in the library of the British Museum, the National Library of France, the Royal Library of Prussia, and the Boston Public Library." Another special report from Spofford, "Use of the Congressional Library," dated Jan. 18, 1897, reiterates the collections and functions that the new building would have to accommodate, adjusting upward his request for cataloging staff and designating additional reading rooms, exhibit space, offices, and even "a room (or two) for a restaurant within the building."

On Feb. 19, 1897, on the eve of the Library's move into its new home, Congress approved an expansion and reorganization proposed by Librarian Spofford, to be effective July 1, 1897. The size of the Library's staff was increased from 42 to 108 — exclusive of the staff authorized for the new office of Superintendent of the Building. In midsummer, the move of books, pamphlets, maps, manuscripts, prints, photographs, pieces of music and other collections from the Capitol to the new building began. Horse-drawn wagons carried more than 800 tons of material across the Capitol's east plaza.



Frances Benjamin Johnston

"A Class of the 2nd Division at the Fountain in Front of the Library of Congress" (1899)

The new Library building opened to the public on Nov. 1, 1897. For months, popular magazines had carried favorable articles about the structure, and few visitors were disappointed. Here was an American library building to match or surpass the finest in Europe. On Nov. 25, 1897, more than 4,700 visitors toured the Library during special Thanksgiving Day hours. Some reactions were ecstatic: Joseph E. Robinson of Washington wrote the Librarian of Congress that "not until I stand before the judgement seat of God do I ever expect to see this building transcended." Speaker of the House of Representatives Joseph G. Cannon called the Library the best public building in Washington, adding, "I am proud of it. My constituents are proud of it. ... It is a great show building. It is our building and worth the money."

On July 8, 1898, when the building was illuminated at night as an experiment, more than 13,000 people came to view it. A flurry of guidebooks, postcards, paintings, commemorative plates, spoons, cups, pillows and other souvenirs increased the institution's popularity. Visitors spread information about the Library and sometimes myths, such as this postcard message: "The dome is covered with solid gold from the Klondike."

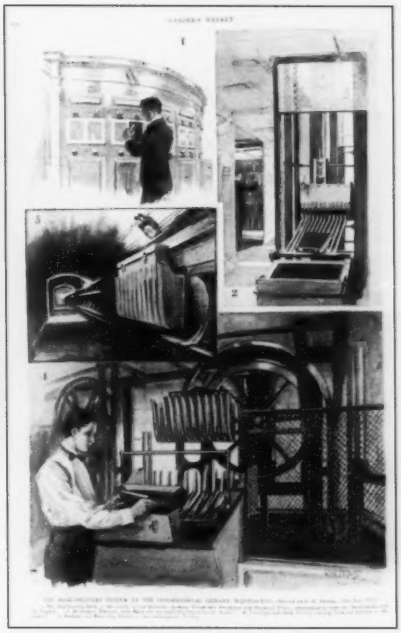
One of the many enthusiastic critiques came from the wife of Sen. John A. Logan (D.-Ill., 1871-77) in her 1901 book, *Thirty Years in Washington*, which included two chapters about the Library, complete with floor plans. In florid prose, Mrs. Logan recognized what indeed had happened: "The new Library of Congress is a monument of a nation which has emerged from the darkness of doubts and dangers into the full glory of conscious power. ... It is the people's Library, through originally designed simply as a Library of Congress. It is more freely open to the people of the whole country than are any of the great libraries of the world."

The enthusiastic reaction to the building from the public, architectural critics and members of Congress was both gratifying and useful to Librarian Spofford, because it focused attention on the institution and helped it attain its unique national status. The sumptuous interior, the statues, paintings and inscriptions all contributed, he felt, to the "public intelligence" and also "to elevate and to refine the public taste."

However, the most significant aspect of the new building for Spofford was the new space: the 326,000 square feet of floor space now available for the "national collections," which he had been accumulating for three decades. For the first time, those collections could be efficiently organized and made available to Congress and particularly to the public. With ample space for growth, an expanded staff and support from a well-pleased Congress, the Library of Congress could soon undertake the services expected of a truly national library.

— John Y. Cole

Mr. Cole is director of the Center for the Book.



"Yukon Girl" wagon in front of the Library, ca. 1900; "Book Delivery System at the Congressional Library, Washington," from *Harper's Weekly*, Aug. 14, 1897, both on display in the new exhibition celebrating the centennial of the opening of the Thomas Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress.

'Book Palace of the American People'

New Centennial Exhibition Opens

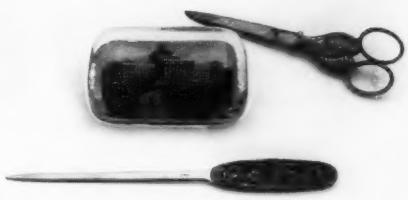
"The Thomas Jefferson Building: Book Palace of the American People," an exhibition marking the centennial of the opening of the Jefferson Building, will be on view in the Library's Great Hall through April 30, 1998.

The exhibition focuses on the excitement the new Library of Congress generated during its first decades. Upon its opening on the rainy Monday morning of Nov. 1, 1897, this new national "temple of art" met with overwhelming approval from both Congress and the American public.

Many of the 165 items on display are from the private collections of Library of Congress employees, who continue to take great pride in what postcards at the time called "the world's most beautiful building." The eclectic assortment includes paintings, mirrors, trinket boxes, scissors, letter openers, watch fobs, a buttonhook, trays, paperweights, napkin rings, plates, cups and saucers, spoons, plaques and pillows.

The exhibition is divided into three sections: "The Building Opens," which includes prints, stereographic views and photographs of the new structure, as well as accounts and illustrations from *Harper's Weekly, The Century* and other contemporary periodicals; "The New Library at Work," which includes copies of photographs of various Library offices from an exhibition at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis and equipment used during the Library's early years, particularly in the Copyright Office; and "Souvenir Objects Showing the Library," which features souvenir items and contemporary advertisements.

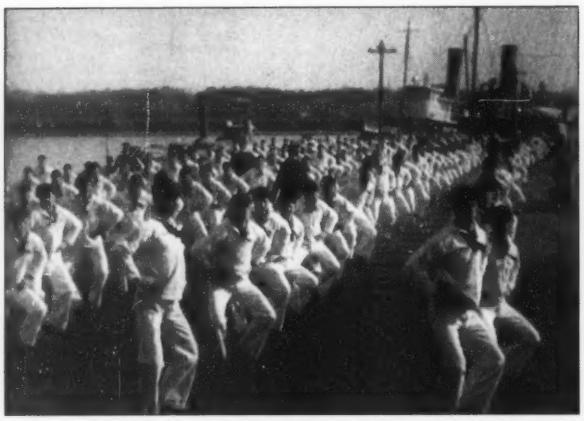
In addition to a checklist of items displayed, the exhibition is accompanied by a brochure that includes an essay, "Book Palace of the American People: A Brief History," by John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book. Mr. Cole and Frank Evina of the Copyright Office served as advisers to the Interpretive Programs Office in organizing the exhibition. Martha Hopkins of the Interpretive Programs Office is the exhibit director.



Jim Higgins

Souvenirs of the Library of Congress, ca. 1900: paperweight, scissors and letter opener; napkin ring, powder container, spoon and cup.

Jim Higgins



"Gymnasium exercises and drill at Newport Training School" and "The Morning Alarm," from the Library's Paper Print Fragment Collection

Images of the Silent Era

The Library's Paper Print Fragment Collection

Because only 10 percent of the motion pictures produced in the medium's earliest days survive, the paper print collections of the Library are an especially important resource for the study of early films, as silent-era films increasingly capture the interest and imagination of scholars as well as the general public.

The Library's Paper Print Fragment Collection, which holds more than 3,000 motion pictures that came to the Library as copyright deposits in 1896-1939, consists of photographic paper on which contact copies of motion pictures appear. These fragments are invaluable because of the rarity of motion pictures produced in the early period. The collection, coupled with the Paper Print Collection, which contains complete films of the same period, makes the Library one of the most important sources for early silent motion pictures in the world.

As the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division's junior fellow under the direction of Patrick Loughney, this writer completed the cataloging and rehousing of the Paper Print Fragment Collection. The improved accessibility of these materials occurs as silent film experts and fans plan to attend the Domitor Conference at the Library next June. The Domitor organization meets biannually to examine motion pictures that major archives have preserved and to assess them for their cultural and historical information.

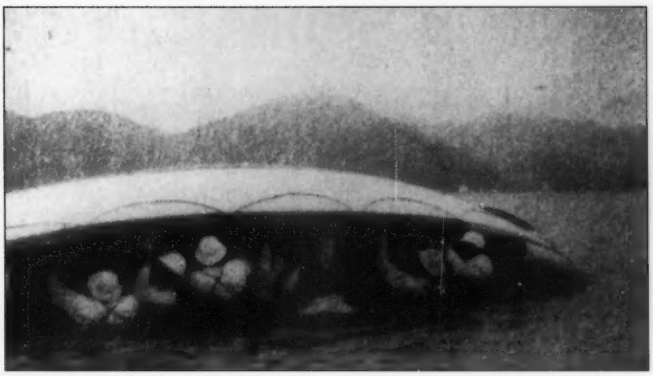
Work as a junior fellow involved building the database for the collection. This database contains the title and copyright number of each fragment, the amount of the original film that has survived, production information and a description of the condition of the material.

The size of the U.S. market in the early silent era provided an enormous draw for European companies as it does today. International scholars and those interested in international production will find a variety of important items within the collection. Portions of motion pictures from Georges Méliès and George Kleine illustrate scenery and other production values. Similar information can be gleaned from the 150 Nordisk and 25 London Film Co. motion pictures within the collection. The size of these particular holdings and other deposits by other foreign film companies submitted from 1912 to 1917 demonstrate the vitality and importance of international filmmaking through the early years of World War I. Another significant international item in the collection includes prints from Elvira Notari's motion picture "A. Piedigrotta" (1921). These prints could offer insight into the vision of this writer, producer and director credited as an inventor of neorealism.

Examining these print fragments illustrates the importance of women to the motion picture industry. Among the scenarists represented are Frances Marion, Edith Delano and Edith Ella Furness. Several women also directed, photographed or produced their own screenplays. Lillian Howarth has four motion picture features within the collection, while Angela Murray Gibson has one feature and four smaller fictional and nonfictional works.

Many of the early narrative motion picture producers from around the United States are well represented. The collection contains more than 400 Vitagraph motion pictures, ranging from two-reelers to Shakespeare, thousands of scenes from Edison's comedies and dramas and nearly 300 Biographs, with several written by Anita Loos, Edward Middleton and D.W. Griffith. Other materials include prints from the Selig Polyscope and Ivan Abramson companies and reels from both the New York Motion Picture and Universal film companies. These motion pictures offer film scholars the chance to expand their understanding of the relationship among genres, film styling and techniques. They could also spur observations regarding marketing techniques and box office success on a local, regional and national basis.

A few of these companies and sev-



"Capsize of Lifeboat" and "A Dull Razor"

eral others were prominent in the production of actualities, non-narrative motion pictures about nonfiction subjects. Although the collection holds many Biograph and Edison actualities from the early 20th century, it also includes motion pictures that illustrate the work of several other companies that seized niche markets: The United Photo Plays company filmed travelogues of Asia; Burton Holmes and Oscar DePew depicted people and sights throughout the world; and the Winthrop Moving Picture Co. created exercise films.

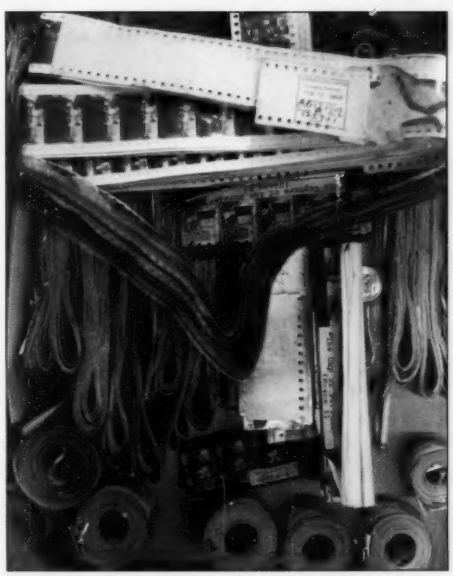
The travelogues, such as the stereographs of the late 19th century, provide vivid documentation of peoples' lives and insight into the interests and perceptions of their makers. Other motion pictures show architectural and interior design preferences, fads and taboos. They illustrate trends and mistakes in fashion and accessories, and illustrate how choices about fashions, as well as food and diet, are linked with social status.

The paper print fragments also offer an invaluable window on attitudes about ethnic groups, races, gender and sexuality. Feature motion pictures, including "The Immigrants" (1915) and "Mr. Levitsky's Insurance Policy" (1908), present perspectives on the foreign-born during the peak of immigration to the United States (1890-1920). Works such as "The Colored Stenographer" (1909), "The Wizard-Blackson Fight" (1915), an animated production of the Jess Willard-Jack Johnson boxing match, "The White Man's First Smoke" (1907) and "Chinese Cook at Hance's Camp" (1905) illuminate perspectives on race in the midst of the Great Migration and Asian exclusionary laws. There are numerous motion pictures that present attitudes on both gender and sexuality as the era experienced growth in the female workforce and the final push of the women's suffrage movement. Among the richest for revelations on gender are "The Female Politician" (1908), "Henpecked Ike" (1912) and "A Wife's Devotion" (1908). Those presenting timely viewpoints on sexuality include "The Sex Lure" (1916), "The Unchastened Woman" (1918) and "A Cure for Bashfulness" (1908).

The Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division is hopeful that these fragments will undergo extensive preservation soon. The division eventually plans to make selected portions of the collection available to the National Digital Library Program for dissemination on the World Wide Web.

— *Brett Abrams*

Mr. Abrams spent last summer working in the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division in the Library's Junior Fellows Program.



A selection the 3,000 holdings in the Library's Paper Print Fragment collection.

Law Library
continued from page 332

Indian Territory Reports, 1900-09. This rare book collection includes 20th century tribal constitutions and tribal corporate charters for more than 200 federally recognized tribal groups in the lower 48 states, in addition to some materials from a number of Alaskan Native villages and communities. One of the unusual treasures in this collection is a small but historically valuable set of legal materials from the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Creek nations in Oklahoma during the Indian Territory period.

"Many Nations: American Indian Holdings in the Law Library of Congress" is on view in the Reading Room and foyer of the administrative offices of the Law Library through January. Hours: Reading Room: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Friday and Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Administrative Offices Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Perspectives on German Reunification

Theo Sommer Shares International Expertise

Theo Sommer, one of Germany's foremost authorities on international relations and strategic issues, spoke at the Library on Oct. 20 on "Current Perspectives on German Reunification: A Political and Economic Assessment."

Mr. Sommer has worked for the influential weekly *Die Zeit* for nearly four decades. The event was made possible by the support of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and was the latest in a series of lectures celebrating the opening of the Library's new European Reading Room in the newly refurbished Jefferson Building. Before a standing-room-only audience in the building's Southeast Pavilion, Dr. Billington highlighted some of Mr. Sommer's many accomplishments in international affairs. He thanked Margrit B. Krewson, the Library's German/Dutch area specialist for organizing the event and then introduced German Ambassador Juergen Chrobog, who introduced Mr. Sommer, whom he described as "one of the most influential shapers of opinion in postwar Germany."

Yusef El-Amin

Theo Sommer, publisher of *Die Zeit* and Margrit Krewson, German/Dutch area specialist.

Mr. Sommer was educated in Germany, Sweden and the United States. He is a widely published scholar of international affairs, and his work has earned several international honors such as the Theodore Wolff Award and the Columbus Award. He is a member of the Trilateral Commission, the International Institute for Strategic Studies and the German Advisory Committee of the German Marshall Fund.

Outlining Germany's current status, Mr. Sommer said, First, "as a result of reunification, Germany has gained weight but lost strength." Although it has acquired the territory, population and economic resources of the former East Germany, the 7-year-old reunified nation will nonetheless be absorbed for the next 20 to 25 years by the process of integration, he said. Second, "Germany is the only country on Earth which is simultaneously beset by the problems of the West and the problems of the East" as it struggles to transform a communist-style economy while trying to compete in the age of globalization. And finally, "Reunification has dramatically changed Germany's standing in the world. It has turned out to be much more expensive than anybody had foreseen. ... Before reunification, Germany was a low-debt country, now it is a high-debt country." Its federal budget deficit grew from DM 19.2 billion ($33.2 billion) in 1989 to 70 billion ($121 billion) in 1997.

Mr. Sommer believes that "the Germans did not make unity happen; it happened to them. It was not the upshot of an operative West German policy." Three major factors made reunification possible: "liberal reform in the Soviet Union and Gorbachev's reluctance to use force when the existing order was challenged; upheaval in Eastern Europe; and, most of all, the determined impatience of the East Germans."

During the seven years since unification, the former East Germany has made measurable economic progress, thanks to assistance from its western counterpart. Wages have risen, housing conditions are improving, consumer goods and services are readily available, and where there were only 20,000 private businesses in the old East Germany, there are now a half-million. Despite these positive signs, however, "One cannot truthfully maintain that the East is really catching up. ... This is not due to the inadequacy of our efforts; it is due to the enormity of the task."

Among eastern Germany's most troubling economic problems, he said, is the 18.3 percent unemployment rate. Mr. Sommer noted that the problem with the financial aid package for the east was that "only one-third of the massive financial transfers went into investment. The remainder served as a "social mollifier," cushioning the shock of unemployment and boosting pensions, wages and salaries to 85 percent of the West German level."

In addition to unemployment, there is still what Mr. Sommer called " a sentimental gap" between the two halves of Germany. "The west Germans, paying through their noses for reunification, feel overtaxed." At the same time, "the east Germans paint quite a different picture. They see themselves as victims. ... In their view, privatization amounted more or less to an unfriendly takeover of their economy by West German capitalists."

Mr. Sommer argued that, "seven years after reunification, the Germans are one nation but two societies," whose populations have different consumer tastes and different collective memories. "Nobody in the east really wishes the old [East Germany] back, but many cherish nostalgic feelings about it. ... a yearning for the slow moving, modest, simple world of [East Germany] ... its circumscribed but comfortable niches, impervious to such cold gusts of change as shake the country now.

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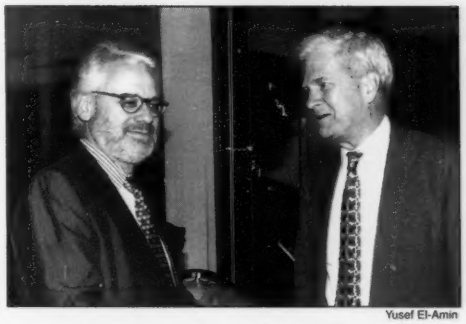
Busek Delivers Vienna Lecture

Addresses Role of Austria in European Development

Erhard Busek, former vice chancellor of Austria and now Phillips Visiting Professor at Duke University, delivered the Vienna Lecture on Nov. 3 at the Library on "Austria's Role in the Development of Eastern and Southeastern Europe."

Mr. Busek was chosen by his European colleagues last December as the coordinator of the Southeastern European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), initiated by the U.S. National Security Council. The SECI participating states are: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Slovenia and Turkey. Mr. Busek met with Dr. Billington before delivering his lecture, which had been arranged by Margrit B. Krewson, the Library's German/Dutch area specialist.

Mr. Busek believes it is necessary to look back to understand the current woes of Austria. He noted that for more than 40 years, until 1989, Austria was at the edge of the West and now finds itself back in the center of Europe. This "Alp-Adriatic-Danube region," as he called it, with its amalgamation of peoples and languages, can serve as an example of cooperation and coexistence. But the current southeastern Europe borders — the results of "wars, treaties and even dynastic marriages — are everything but natural" and must not stand in the way of cooperation on common problems.



Yusef El-Amin

Erhard Busek and Dr. Billington

The geopolitical composition of the Danube region is varied: some states are members of the European Union (EU), some have association agreements with the EU and others are without any formal association. What he hopes does not happen is the hanging of "a new kind of curtain," not from the East, but from the West over concerns about trade, immigration, finance, crime or other issues. He believes that the SECI can play a significant role by encouraging cooperation among member states.

The SECI will emphasize increased involvement by the private sector in regional economic and environmental efforts through joint projects, meetings, conferences and project groups. Mr. Busek's role as SECI coordinator is to facilitate the creation of project groups that will make specific recommendations for action in the areas of trade, transportation, business development, energy conservation, natural resources and environmental protection of the Danube River.

Sommer
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"One can hardly detect any more where the Wall and the Iron Curtain brutally separated East from West. But the 'wall in our heads' will be with us for a long time to come."

In spite of the current struggles "already islands of prosperity are taking shape in the east. ... A new middle class is bound to arise in the process. This in turn will change not only the sociological complexion of the east but also bring about conditions in which the growing together of Germany will be markedly eased and accelerated." But just as there was no "homogenized West Germany, Mr. Sommer said he does not expect a completely "homogenized" united Germany to emerge.

— *Susan Manus*

Susan Manus is a music specialist in the National Digital Library Program.

Library Specialist Awarded Austrian Honor

On Nov. 3, at the residence of Austrian Ambassador Helmut Türk (right), Margrit B. Krewson (center), the Library's German/Dutch area specialist, was awarded the Austrian Cross of Honor for Science and Art, First Class. This award is given upon the recommendation of the Minister for Science and Research and must be signed by the president of Austria. Dr. Billington (left) attended the ceremony.

The award recognized Mrs. Krewson's services to Austria at the Library. In the past 17 years she has strengthened the Austrian collections, making the Library's German-language collections among the best in the world. During the past two years Mrs. Krewson has arranged and supported the Vienna Lectures that provide insight and understanding of Austria's history and role in central Europe. The ambassador thanked Mrs. Krewson for her dedication to serving Austrian interests at the Library.

News from the Center for the Book

Maine Center for the Book Approved

The Library of Congress has approved an application from the Maine Humanities Council to become the home of the Maine Center for the Book.

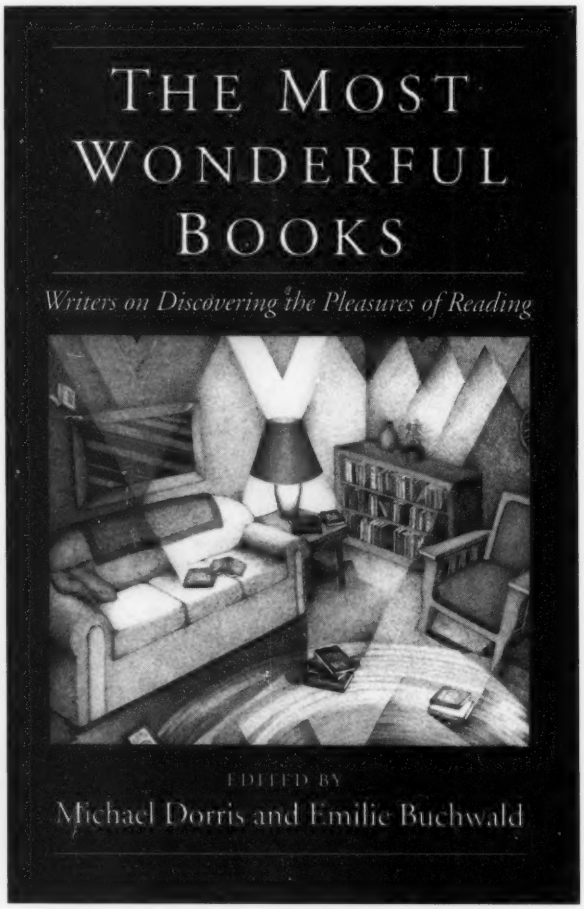
"We are very happy to welcome Maine, a state with a rich literary heritage, to our growing network of affiliated state centers," said John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

The Maine Center for the Book will be one of four divisions of the Maine Humanities Council. The new statewide center will provide leadership in connecting appropriate state organizations in several activities, including: promoting reading as an essential life-long activity; celebrating Maine's rich literary traditions, past and present; and drawing together members of the state's community of readers and writers who treasure books and the ideas within them.

"We are delighted with this opportunity to increase state awareness about the central role of reading in our lives," said Dorothy Schwartz, executive director of the Maine Humanities Council. "Our first priority as the Maine Center for the Book is to intensify our services to those who are nonreaders or infrequent readers through our new family literacy programming."

For information about the Maine Center for the Book, contact Dorothy Schwartz, Executive Director, Maine Humanities Council, P.O. Box 7202, Portland, ME 04112; telephone (207) 773-5051 or fax (207) 773-2416.

■ **New Book Describes the Pleasures of Reading as Seen by Contemporary Writers.** In association with the Center for the Book, Milkweed Editions of Minneapolis has just published *The Most Wonderful Books: Writers on Discovering the Pleasures of Reading.*


THE MOST WONDERFUL BOOKS
Writers on Discovering the Pleasures of Reading
EDITED BY
Michael Dorris and Emilie Buchwald

Edited by writer Michael Dorris (1945-1997) who wrote the introduction, and writer and publisher Emilie Buchwald, this collection of short essays from 57 of today's best writers is an eloquent testament to the importance of books. The contributors, although they came to reading in many different ways, remember how books affected their lives. They include writers Nicholson Baker, Charles Baxter, Alan Cheuse, Gretel Ehrlich, Doris Grumbach, Thom Gunn, Kathleen Norris, Howard Norman and Katherine Paterson, and poets J.D. Clatchy, Naomi Shihab Nye and Poet Laureate Robert Pinksy.

In his afterword, Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole describes the center's activities and "Building a Nation of Readers," the center's national reading promotion theme for the years 1997-2000.

A 297-page book, *The Most Wonderful Books* sells for $14.95. It is available in bookstores around the nation and in the Library of Congress Sales Shop; phone (202) 707-0204.

■ **Autumn Is Book Fair Season.** The Center for the Book and the LC Sales Shop participated on Sept. 18-20 in the Fourth Annual Washington International Antiquarian Book Fair, held at the D.C. Convention Center. The exhibit booth featured book-related products and Center for the Book publications; the center also distributed brochures promoting its "Building a Nation of Readers" national reading theme. A booth highlight was "Books That Shaped America," a 16-panel facsimile traveling exhibit developed jointly with the Publishing Office and SIRS Inc.

Center for the Book Director John Cole, Program Officer Maurvene Williams and Special Assistant Pat White participated in the "New York Is Book Country" book fair on Fifth Avenue in New York City on Sept. 21. The Center for the Book shared two exhibit booths with two different reading promotion part-

ners. The first, located near 57th Street and in cooperation with Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) and the American Library Association, featured a "read-a- thon" that included authors, celebrities and willing fairgoers. The second, a five-booth display between 50th and 52nd streets, presented the 1996 "50 Books/50 Covers" exhibition of award-winning books and book covers as judged by the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA). These books and covers are available as part of a traveling exhibit sponsored jointed by AIGA and the Center for the Book. For information, contact Gabriela Mirensky, AIGA at (212) 807-1990, extension 231 or send e-mail to competitions@aiga.org.

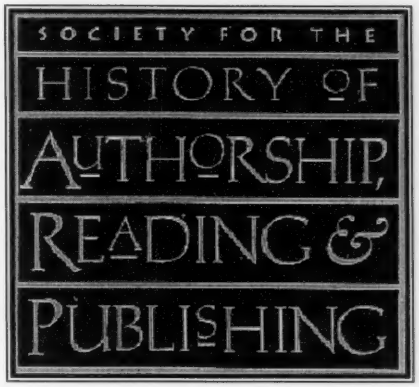
John Cole was a special guest on Sept. 26-27, in Reno at the Great Basin Book Festival which, on Sept. 26, featured Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky as a speaker. Mr. Cole also was a guest on Oct. 24-25 in Springfield at the Illinois Center for the Book's third annual Illinois Authors Festival and Book Fair.

■ **Centre for the Book Established in Wales.** Citing the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and the Centre for the Book in the British Library as forerunners, a new Centre for the Book has been established in Wales. It is a project of the National Library of Wales, the Welsh Book Council, and the Department of Information and Library Studies, University of Wales, Aberystwyth.

The goal of the new cooperative endeavor among these three national institutions is to "formalize cooperation and shared development in order to promote the book in Wales." Through research, exhibitions, lectures, joint production of catalogs and other projects, the new Centre for the Book in Wales will reflect the book's "contribution to Welsh culture in every field."

The first meeting was held at the Welsh Books Council on March 13. D. Hywel E. Roberts, one of the center's founders, explained its purpose:

"This is not a center in the sense of a building but an undertaking to collaborate in the field of books. Many have predicted the demise of the book — the world of technology taking its place, according to some, but there is plenty of life left in the book yet and we will be giving attention to every aspect. These include: who are the authors, who publishes and why, where can books be bought and who reads them, who collects them, what are the prospects for the next century, not to mention looking back at aspects of its history."



For further information, contact professor Hywel E. Roberts, Department of Information and Library Studies, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, Wales; telephone 01970 622189.

■ **SHARP 1997 and 1998.** Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole participated in the fifth annual conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading & Publishing (SHARP), held in England at the University of Cambridge on July 4-7, 1997. On July 4, he and Ian Willison, University of London, co-chaired a half-day reporting session on current developments in the study of the history of books and the history of libraries. On July 5, he chaired a conference session on "Modern American Publishing."

The sixth annual SHARP conference (the second was held at the Library of Congress in 1994) will be held in Vancouver, Canada, on July 16-20, 1998, at Simon Fraser University under the auspices of the Canadian Centre for Studies in Publishing. Conference themes will include: traditions of the written word in Asia and the Americas; interactions and boundaries between print and oral culture; book arts, text and image; and books in ancient, medieval and Renaissance periods. For information, call (604) 291-5093; fax (604) 291-5098; or e-mail: sharp98@sfu.ca; or visit the World Wide Web site at http://www.sfu.ca/sharp98/.

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